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heart of their territory. His impressive bearing gives him complete ascendancy over the minds of the savage warriors. The still more formidable hostility of Spain he meets with a courage and generalship that prove the salvation of the colony.

The interesting facts of this period of Georgia's history are to a large extent inaccessible to the general reader. In presenting them in a convenient and readable form the author has rendered a distinct service.

J. H. T. MCPHERSON.

George Washington. By NORMAN HAPGOOD. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1901. Pp. xi, 419.)

IT is not difficult to explain why Washington should be such a favorite in biography, for the story of his career lends itself to picturesque development. The young surveyor and provincial soldier; the Virginia planter and burgess; the commander-in-chief of the Continental army; the center of the federal movement; and the first President—here is material suited to every taste. The difficulty in treating his life is found in the apparent contradiction between a rather commonplace man in characteristics and conditions which are royal in their splendid opportunities. It is not easy to reconcile the farmer counting every penny of expense with the man who bore the weight of the military operations of the Revolution, and the more delicate task of superintending the first years of a national administration which rested upon a compromise and was adopted by only a very small majority.

Mr. Hapgood has produced a book that meets the difficulties of the subject with success. He is no worshiper of the man, yet recognizes his many high qualities; nor is he depreciatory of the unheroic elements that cannot but make an impression upon all who study the private life of any great man. He holds an even balance and has written an orderly, judicious, and readable account of the leading phases of Washington's career. He is unsympathetic at times, and, as in the treatment of slaves, is inclined to be unfair to Washington. No one but a Virginian, or one steeped in the colonial history of Virginia, is able to enter into the plantation life of that great day. Costly and wasteful as it was under any conditions, it was peculiarly difficult to Washington, who knew well that there was a better system and one almost within his reach. His impatient efforts to improve his holdings out of the existing methods were hampered by the dead weight of slavery, and he pressed upon overseer and slave in the hope of obtaining better results. Nor is Mr. Hapgood just to John Adams, when describing the Conway Cabal. Adams had good reasons for his position, which never reached one of hostility to Washington. Mr. Hapgood also, it seems to me, trusts too implicitly the babbling Custis, for extracts are taken from his *Recollections* apparently with full confidence in their truth. As a fact Custis is a most uncertain guide except where he gives documentary proof of his stories. This readiness to accept the relation of others leads Mr. Hapgood to repeat the error

that Washington received the sword of Cornwallis in the surrender at Yorktown, even describing the horse on which he sat at the time. The letter of Franklin to Strahan is also taken seriously, although it has come to be looked upon as one of the philosopher's jokes. Was it Amherst who boasted at the outbreak of the Revolution that with five thousand English regulars he would engage to march from one end of the continent of North America to the other? It sounds more like the braggart Grant, to whom the saying is generally attributed. Washington is made to attend the Virginia convention on the Constitution — which he never entered; and Hamilton is held up to view for using, on a larger scale than it had ever reached before, the barter system in Congress to attain his ends, although the history of the Continental Congress from 1777 had been little else than such bargains. The deafness of Washington is said to have been "growing" on him in 1780, certainly too early a period for its appearance. A touch of journalism will account for the reference to a modern naval hero, and for the curious error of making Roger Wolcott Secretary of the Treasury.

Such slips of pen and memory do not affect the general tone of the book, which is wholesome and appreciative. "No figure in modern history compares with him as an influence toward public conscience." "Without great events Washington would not have been famous, and, on the other hand, he made events great by his ability in meeting them." "He made enemies in his life, but he left none at his death." The number of such sentences could be multiplied, and would only show how well Mr. Hapgood had read the character of Washington and measured its greatness as well as its weakness. There is no attempt to picture his family connection as unusual, or to represent his mother as a grand matron of heroic proportions. Mrs. Washington, his wife, is not raised above the mediocrity where she belongs, nor are superhuman gifts ascribed to her. Due credit is given to the men whom Washington called around him, and of whose abilities he had a fine discrimination. The story is told evenly and, as a whole, with good taste and judgment.

WORTHINGTON CHAUNCEY FORD.

The Acquisition of Political, Social, and Industrial Rights of Man in America. By JOHN BACH MCMASTER. (Cleveland: Cleveland Printing and Publishing Company. 1903. Pp. 123.)

THIS little volume of about 120 pages consists of three lectures delivered at Western Reserve University in the spring of 1903, under the auspices of the Western Reserve Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The author's purpose seems to be to trace the growth of the rights of man in American history from the Congress of 1774 down to the middle of the nineteenth century. The treatment from beginning to end is clear and concrete, because the various "rights of man" are traced in their historical settings, instead of being discussed in an abstract philosophical way.